

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shinsuke OKADA et al.

Serial No : 10/774,540

Filed : February 10, 2004

For : ENDOSCOPE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, 1.97-1.98,
Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

JP P2000-121961 to HIBINO, laid open on April 28, 2000, which is
accompanied by an English language translation and which is cited on page 2 of
the specification;

U.S. Patent No. 5,323,009 to HARRIS, issued June 21, 1994; and

U.S. Patent No. 5,120,953 to HARRIS, issued June 9, 1992.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the
above-noted documents. Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's
decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the

U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

A copy of the foreign-language document and an English language translation thereof are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached.

Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate space on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants also call to the Examiner's attention the following commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/771,403 to OKADA, filed February 5, 2004.;

U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/462,324 to BYRNE et al., filed April 14, 2003, which corresponds to non-provisional U.S. Patent Application No. 10/822,718, filed April 13, 2004;

U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/470,874 to PATTIE, filed May 16, 2003;

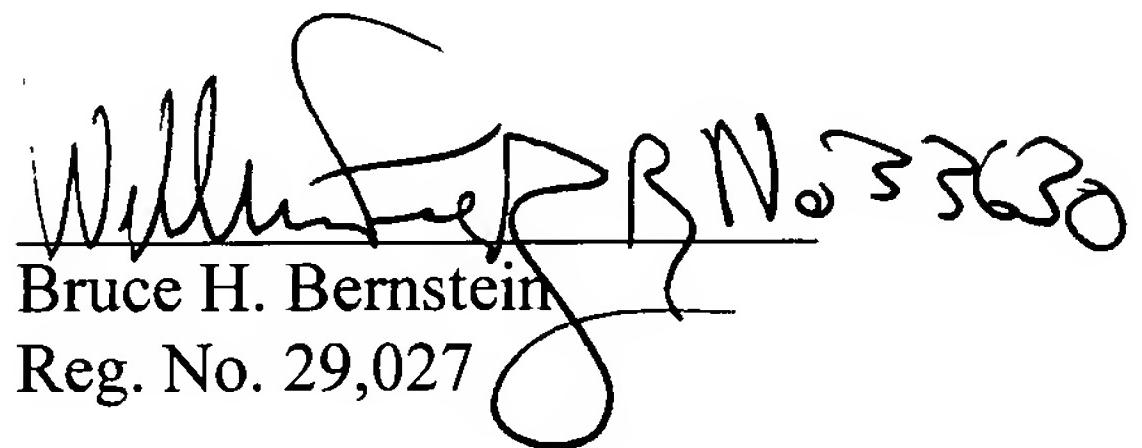
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/784,308 to MIZUNO, filed February 24, 2004; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,699 to MIZUNO, filed November 4, 2003.

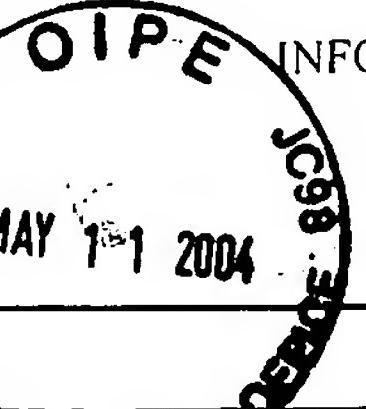
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above mentioned U.S. patent applications and provisional applications are attached hereto. However, the Examiner is requested to review the file wrapper of the U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Of course, if for any reason the Examiner cannot locate the application, Applicants will provide any requested materials, if possible.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Shinsuke OKADA


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May 10, 2004
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Form PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office						Atty. Docket No. P24587		Serial No. 10/774,540	
 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)								Applicant Shinsuke OKADA et al			
						Filing Date February 10, 2004		Group Unknown			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS											
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER			DATE	NAME			CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5	3	2	3	0	0	9	06/21/94	HARRIS	
		5	1	2	0	9	5	3	06/09/92	HARRIS	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
		DOCUMENT NUMBER			DATE	COUNTRY			CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
2000	-	1	2	1	9	6	1	JAPAN			X
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)											
EXAMINER						DATE CONSIDERED					
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.											